

murach's python for data analysis

Murach's Python for Data Analysis: A Comprehensive Review and Guide

Introduction:

Are you ready to unlock the power of Python for data analysis? Murach's Python for Data Analysis is a popular choice for both beginners and experienced programmers looking to delve into the world of data manipulation, visualization, and insightful extraction. This comprehensive guide dives deep into the book, exploring its strengths, weaknesses, and overall effectiveness in teaching practical data analysis skills using Python. We'll cover its structure, content, target audience, and ultimately, whether it's the right resource for your data analysis journey. Prepare to gain a clear understanding of what makes this book a valuable asset (or not) for your learning path.

Chapter 1: Understanding Murach's Approach

Murach's books are known for their practical, hands-on approach. Unlike theoretical textbooks, Murach's Python for Data Analysis emphasizes practical application. Each concept is introduced with clear explanations and immediately reinforced with numerous, well-structured examples and exercises. This approach is ideal for learning by doing, allowing readers to build a strong foundation and confidence in their Python programming skills for data analysis. The book avoids unnecessary jargon and focuses on conveying information in a clear, concise manner – a significant benefit for beginners struggling with technical concepts.

Chapter 2: Key Content Covered in the Book

The book's core strength lies in its comprehensive coverage of essential data analysis tools and techniques using Python. Key topics explored include:

Fundamental Python Concepts: The book doesn't assume prior Python knowledge. It starts with the basics, covering data types, variables, operators, control structures, and functions – providing a solid foundation for those new to the language.

Working with Data Structures: This section delves into Python's powerful data structures like lists, tuples, dictionaries, and sets. It explains how to efficiently manage and manipulate data using these structures, a crucial skill for data analysis.

NumPy and Pandas: These two libraries are cornerstones of Python data analysis. The book provides an in-depth explanation of their functionalities, covering array manipulation, data cleaning, data transformation, and handling missing values. Readers will learn to leverage the power of these libraries for efficient data processing.

Data Visualization with Matplotlib and Seaborn: Effective visualization is paramount for understanding data. The book teaches readers how to create various charts and graphs using Matplotlib and Seaborn, making complex data sets more accessible and insightful. This section moves beyond basic plots to demonstrate techniques for creating informative and visually appealing visualizations.

Data Wrangling and Cleaning: Real-world datasets are rarely clean and tidy. The book dedicates significant attention to data cleaning techniques, covering tasks such as handling missing data, removing duplicates, and transforming data into usable formats.

Data Analysis Techniques: Beyond basic manipulation, the book explores core data analysis techniques, including descriptive statistics, exploratory data analysis (EDA), and basic statistical modeling. This section lays a foundation for more advanced statistical analysis.

Working with Files and Databases: The book covers techniques for importing and exporting data from various file formats (CSV, Excel, JSON) and interacting with databases, enabling readers to work with diverse data sources.

Chapter 3: Who Should Use This Book?

Murach's Python for Data Analysis is a great resource for several audiences:

Beginner Programmers: The book's structured approach and clear explanations make it suitable for individuals with little to no prior programming experience. Its practical focus ensures that even beginners can quickly start applying their knowledge to real-world data analysis tasks.

Students: It's a valuable textbook for introductory data analysis courses, offering a practical and engaging learning experience. The exercises and examples reinforce learning effectively.

Professionals: Individuals transitioning into data analysis or seeking to improve their Python skills for data-related work will find the book's practical approach and comprehensive coverage highly beneficial.

Those seeking a hands-on approach: The book's emphasis on practical application makes it ideal for individuals who prefer learning by doing rather than solely through theoretical explanations.

Chapter 4: Strengths and Weaknesses

Strengths:

Practical Approach: The hands-on approach makes learning engaging and effective.

Clear and Concise Writing: The book avoids jargon and explains concepts clearly.

Comprehensive Coverage: It covers a wide range of essential data analysis topics.

Abundant Examples and Exercises: Plenty of practice opportunities solidify understanding.

Well-Structured: The book is logically organized, making it easy to follow.

Weaknesses:

Lacks Advanced Statistical Modeling: The book focuses on introductory statistical techniques and doesn't delve into advanced modeling.

Limited Coverage of Specific Libraries: While covering NumPy and Pandas extensively, it doesn't explore other specialized libraries like Scikit-learn in great depth.

Rapid Pace in Certain Sections: Some sections may move quickly for absolute beginners, requiring additional research or practice.

Chapter 5: Conclusion: Is Murach's Python for Data Analysis Right for You?

Murach's Python for Data Analysis is an excellent resource for those seeking a practical and comprehensive introduction to Python for data analysis. Its strength lies in its hands-on approach, clear explanations, and extensive coverage of essential topics. However, it's crucial to understand that it's not an exhaustive guide to all aspects of data analysis. If you're looking for a deep dive into advanced statistical modeling or specialized libraries, you might need to supplement this book with other resources. Nevertheless, as a foundational text, it's highly recommended for beginners and those seeking a robust, practical introduction to this exciting field.

Book Outline: Murach's Python for Data Analysis

Title: Murach's Python for Data Analysis

Contents:

Introduction: Overview of Python's role in data analysis and the book's structure.

Chapter 1: Python Fundamentals: Data types, variables, operators, control flow, functions, and object-oriented programming basics.

Chapter 2: Working with Data Structures: Lists, tuples, dictionaries, sets, and efficient data manipulation techniques.

Chapter 3: NumPy for Numerical Computing: Array creation, manipulation, linear algebra, and statistical functions.

Chapter 4: Pandas for Data Analysis: DataFrames, data cleaning, data transformation, handling missing data, and data manipulation.

Chapter 5: Data Visualization with Matplotlib and Seaborn: Creating various charts and graphs for effective data representation.

Chapter 6: Data Wrangling and Cleaning: Techniques for handling messy datasets and preparing them for analysis.

Chapter 7: Basic Data Analysis Techniques: Descriptive statistics, exploratory data analysis (EDA), and introductory statistical modeling.

Chapter 8: Working with Files and Databases: Importing and exporting data from various sources and interacting with databases.

Conclusion: Summary of key concepts and guidance on further learning.

Detailed Explanation of Outline Points:

Each chapter in the outline builds upon the previous one, creating a progressive learning path. Chapter 1 lays the groundwork by introducing fundamental Python concepts. Chapter 2 focuses on efficient data handling, crucial for any data analysis task. Chapters 3 and 4 introduce NumPy and Pandas, two cornerstone libraries in Python's data analysis ecosystem. These chapters provide hands-on exercises allowing readers to practice data manipulation and transformation. Chapter 5 equips readers with data visualization skills, making data insights accessible through charts and graphs. Chapter 6 addresses the crucial skill of data cleaning, preparing messy datasets for analysis. Chapter 7 introduces basic data analysis techniques, building the foundation for more complex analyses. Finally, Chapter 8 explains how to interact with various data sources, completing the data analysis workflow. The conclusion summarizes the key skills acquired and points to resources for further learning.

FAQs:

1. Is prior programming experience required to use this book? No, the book starts with Python fundamentals, making it accessible to beginners.
1. What libraries does the book cover? It focuses on NumPy, Pandas, Matplotlib, and Seaborn.
1. Is this book suitable for advanced data scientists? No, it's geared towards beginners and intermediate learners. Advanced concepts are not

deeply explored.

1. What kind of data analysis techniques are covered? Descriptive statistics, exploratory data analysis (EDA), and basic statistical modeling are included.
1. Does the book cover machine learning? No, machine learning is not a core topic.
1. What file formats does the book cover for data import/export? CSV, Excel, and JSON are among the formats discussed.
1. Are there exercises and projects included? Yes, the book includes numerous exercises and examples to reinforce learning.
1. Is the book suitable for self-learning? Yes, its clear explanations and practical approach make it ideal for self-study.
1. What's the best way to supplement this book for further learning? Consider exploring specialized libraries like Scikit-learn for machine learning or statistics textbooks for advanced statistical methods.

Related Articles:

1. Python for Data Science Beginners: A Step-by-Step Guide: This article provides a beginner-friendly introduction to Python for data science, covering fundamental concepts and essential libraries.
1. Mastering NumPy for Data Analysis: An in-depth exploration of NumPy's

capabilities for array manipulation, linear algebra, and numerical computing.

1. Pandas Data Manipulation Techniques for Efficient Data Analysis: This article focuses on advanced Pandas techniques for cleaning, transforming, and manipulating data efficiently.
1. Effective Data Visualization with Matplotlib and Seaborn: A guide to creating informative and visually appealing charts and graphs using Matplotlib and Seaborn.
1. A Practical Guide to Data Cleaning and Preprocessing: This article covers techniques for handling missing data, outliers, and inconsistencies in datasets.
1. Introduction to Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA): Uncovering Insights in Your Data: This article explains EDA techniques for understanding and visualizing data.
1. Working with Different Data Formats in Python: This article guides readers on importing and exporting data from various file formats.
1. Database Interaction with Python for Data Analysis: This article covers techniques for connecting to and querying databases using Python.
1. Choosing the Right Python Libraries for Your Data Analysis Project: This article helps readers select the appropriate Python libraries based on their specific needs and project requirements.

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murach s python for data analysis: MURACH'S PYTHON FOR DATA SCIENCE. SCOTT. MCCOY, 2024

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telling stories with your data to engage with your audience Apply machine learning algorithms to your data with a few clicks of a button Book Description: Data analytics has become a necessity in modern business, and skills such as data visualization, machine learning, and digital storytelling are now essential in every field. If you want to make sense of your data and add value with informed decisions, this is the book for you. Data Analytics Made Easy is an accessible guide to help you start analyzing data and quickly apply these skills to your work. It focuses on how to generate insights from your data at the click of a few buttons, using the popular tools KNIME and Microsoft Power BI. The book introduces the concepts of data analytics and shows you how to get your data ready and apply ML algorithms. Implement a full predictive analytics solution with KNIME and assess its level of accuracy. Create impressive visualizations with Microsoft Power BI and learn the greatest secret in successful analytics - how to tell a story with your data. You'll connect the dots on the various stages of the data-to-insights process and gain an overview of alternative tools, including Tableau and H2O Driverless AI. By the end of this book, you will have learned how to implement machine learning algorithms and sell the results to your customers without writing a line of code. What You Will Learn: Understand the potential of data and its impact on any business Influence business decisions with effective data storytelling when delivering insights Use KNIME to import, clean, transform, combine data feeds, and automate recurring workflows Learn the basics of machine learning and AutoML to add value to your organization Build, test, and validate simple supervised and unsupervised machine learning models with KNIME Use Power BI and Tableau to build professional-looking and business-centric visuals and dashboards Who this book is for: Whether you are working with data experts or want to find insights in your business' data, you'll find this book an effective way to add analytics to your skill stack. No previous math, statistics, or computer science knowledge is required.

murach s python for data analysis: Data Analytics Made Easy Andrea De Mauro, Francesco Marzoni, Andrew J. Walter, 2021-08-30 Learn how to gain insights from your data as well as machine learning and become a presentation pro who can create interactive dashboards Key Features Enhance your presentation skills by implementing engaging data storytelling and visualization techniques Learn the basics of machine learning and easily apply machine learning models to your data Improve productivity by automating your data processes Book Description Data Analytics Made Easy is an accessible beginner's guide for anyone working with data. The book interweaves four key elements: Data visualizations and storytelling - Tired of people not listening to you and ignoring your results? Don't worry; chapters 7 and 8 show you how to enhance your presentations and engage with your managers and co-workers. Learn to create focused content with a well-structured story behind it to captivate your audience. Automating your data workflows - Improve your productivity by automating your data analysis. This book introduces you to the open-source platform, KNIME Analytics Platform. You'll see how to use this no-code and free-to-use software to create a KNIME workflow of your data processes just by clicking and dragging components. Machine learning - Data Analytics Made Easy describes popular machine learning approaches in a simplified and visual way before implementing these machine learning models using KNIME. You'll not only be able to understand data scientists' machine learning models; you'll be able to challenge them and build your own. Creating interactive dashboards - Follow the book's simple methodology to create professional-looking dashboards using Microsoft Power BI, giving users the capability to slice and dice data and drill down into the results. What you will learn Understand the potential of data and its impact on your business Import, clean, transform, combine data feeds, and automate your processes Influence business decisions by learning to create engaging presentations Build real-world models to improve profitability, create customer segmentation, automate and improve data reporting, and more Create professional-looking and business-centric visuals and dashboards Open the lid on the black box of AI and learn about and implement supervised and unsupervised machine learning models Who this book is for This book is for beginners who work with data and those who need to know how to interpret their business/customer data. The book also covers the high-level concepts of data workflows, machine learning, data

storytelling, and visualizations, which are useful for managers. No previous math, statistics, or computer science knowledge is required.

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murach s python for data analysis: Think Like a Programmer V. Anton Spraul, 2012-08-12 The real challenge of programming isn't learning a language's syntax—it's learning to creatively solve problems so you can build something great. In this one-of-a-kind text, author V. Anton Spraul breaks down the ways that programmers solve problems and teaches you what other introductory books often ignore: how to Think Like a Programmer. Each chapter tackles a single programming concept, like classes, pointers, and recursion, and open-ended exercises throughout challenge you to apply your knowledge. You'll also learn how to: -Split problems into discrete components to make them easier to solve -Make the most of code reuse with functions, classes, and libraries -Pick the perfect data structure for a particular job -Master more advanced programming tools like recursion and dynamic memory -Organize your thoughts and develop strategies to tackle particular types of problems Although the book's examples are written in C++, the creative problem-solving concepts they illustrate go beyond any particular language; in fact, they often reach outside the realm of computer science. As the most skillful programmers know, writing great code is a creative art—and the first step in creating your masterpiece is learning to Think Like a Programmer.

murach s python for data analysis: ASP.NET Core Razor Pages Robert E Beasley, PhD, 2020-12-05 Audience This book was written for anyone interested in learning one of the most effective and widely-used technology stacks for developing highly-interactive, professional-grade, database-driven Web applications-ASP.NET Core Razor Pages, C#.NET, HTML, Bootstrap, CSS, JavaScript, and Entity Framework Core-including novice software developers, professional software

developers, and college or university students enrolled in a one-semester course or two-semester sequence of courses in Web application development. Organization Part I provides an overview of some of the major concepts and technologies associated with ASP.NET Core Web application development as well as ASP.NET Core solutions and projects. Part II describes how to develop an ASP.NET Core Web application, including how to create and use HTML elements and how to perform model validation to keep bad data out of the system. The concepts in this part of the book will lay the foundation required for learning the C# programming language in the context of an ASP.NET Core Web application. Part III describes how to program in the C# programming language, including how to perform assignment, conversion, control, string, arithmetic, date and time, array, collection, and file system operations and how to create custom C# classes-in the context of an ASP.NET Core Web application. Part IV describes how to develop a multiple-page ASP.NET Core Web application, including how to maintain the application's state and how to use layout pages to give the pages of the application a consistent look. Part V describes how to improve the user experience of an ASP.NET Core Web application, including how to use Bootstrap to make the application responsive and attractive when displayed on a phone, tablet, laptop, and desktop, how to use Cascading Style Sheets to style HTML elements consistently across all the pages of the application, and how to use JavaScript to write code that needs to be executed in the browser. Part VI describes how to connect an ASP.NET Core Web application to a SQL Server database, including how to install and use Entity Framework Core, how to perform database query operations, and how to perform database table maintenance. Part VII describes how to create an ASP.NET Core Web application service, including a NetMail email service and a MailKit email service. Features Real-Life Examples A significant proportion of the examples in the text are drawn from the real-life experiences of the author's own software development practice that began in 1987. Clear-Minded, Consistent, and Concise Prose Every effort has been made to present concepts clearly and logically, utilize consistent language and terminology across all chapters, and articulate concepts fully yet concisely. Accessible Language Although the subject matter of this book is highly technical and specialized, trendy and/or arcane language that is inaccessible to the average learner is either clearly defined or replaced in favor of clear and generalizable terminology.

murach s python for data analysis: Python for Excel Felix Zumstein, 2021-03-04 While Excel remains ubiquitous in the business world, recent Microsoft feedback forums are full of requests to include Python as an Excel scripting language. In fact, it's the top feature requested. What makes this combination so compelling? In this hands-on guide, Felix Zumstein--creator of xlwings, a popular open source package for automating Excel with Python--shows experienced Excel users how to integrate these two worlds efficiently. Excel has added quite a few new capabilities over the past couple of years, but its automation language, VBA, stopped evolving a long time ago. Many Excel power users have already adopted Python for daily automation tasks. This guide gets you started. Use Python without extensive programming knowledge Get started with modern tools, including Jupyter notebooks and Visual Studio code Use pandas to acquire, clean, and analyze data and replace typical Excel calculations Automate tedious tasks like consolidation of Excel workbooks and production of Excel reports Use xlwings to build interactive Excel tools that use Python as a calculation engine Connect Excel to databases and CSV files and fetch data from the internet using Python code Use Python as a single tool to replace VBA, Power Query, and Power Pivot

murach s python for data analysis: Behavioral Data Analysis with R and Python Florent Buisson, 2021-06-15 Harness the full power of the behavioral data in your company by learning tools specifically designed for behavioral data analysis. Common data science algorithms and predictive analytics tools treat customer behavioral data, such as clicks on a website or purchases in a supermarket, the same as any other data. Instead, this practical guide introduces powerful methods specifically tailored for behavioral data analysis. Advanced experimental design helps you get the most out of your A/B tests, while causal diagrams allow you to tease out the causes of behaviors even when you can't run experiments. Written in an accessible style for data scientists, business analysts, and behavioral scientists, this practical book provides complete examples and exercises in R and

Python to help you gain more insight from your data-immediately. Understand the specifics of behavioral data Explore the differences between measurement and prediction Learn how to clean and prepare behavioral data Design and analyze experiments to drive optimal business decisions Use behavioral data to understand and measure cause and effect Segment customers in a transparent and insightful way

murach s python for data analysis: Python Data Cleaning Cookbook Michael Walker, 2020-12-11 Discover how to describe your data in detail, identify data issues, and find out how to solve them using commonly used techniques and tips and tricks Key FeaturesGet well-versed with various data cleaning techniques to reveal key insightsManipulate data of different complexities to shape them into the right form as per your business needsClean, monitor, and validate large data volumes to diagnose problems before moving on to data analysisBook Description Getting clean data to reveal insights is essential, as directly jumping into data analysis without proper data cleaning may lead to incorrect results. This book shows you tools and techniques that you can apply to clean and handle data with Python. You'll begin by getting familiar with the shape of data by using practices that can be deployed routinely with most data sources. Then, the book teaches you how to manipulate data to get it into a useful form. You'll also learn how to filter and summarize data to gain insights and better understand what makes sense and what does not, along with discovering how to operate on data to address the issues you've identified. Moving on, you'll perform key tasks, such as handling missing values, validating errors, removing duplicate data, monitoring high volumes of data, and handling outliers and invalid dates. Next, you'll cover recipes on using supervised learning and Naive Bayes analysis to identify unexpected values and classification errors, and generate visualizations for exploratory data analysis (EDA) to visualize unexpected values. Finally, you'll build functions and classes that you can reuse without modification when you have new data. By the end of this Python book, you'll be equipped with all the key skills that you need to clean data and diagnose problems within it. What you will learnFind out how to read and analyze data from a variety of sourcesProduce summaries of the attributes of data frames, columns, and rowsFilter data and select columns of interest that satisfy given criteriaAddress messy data issues, including working with dates and missing valuesImprove your productivity in Python pandas by using method chainingUse visualizations to gain additional insights and identify potential data issuesEnhance your ability to learn what is going on in your dataBuild user-defined functions and classes to automate data cleaningWho this book is for This book is for anyone looking for ways to handle messy, duplicate, and poor data using different Python tools and techniques. The book takes a recipe-based approach to help you to learn how to clean and manage data. Working knowledge of Python programming is all you need to get the most out of the book.

murach s python for data analysis: Data Structures and Algorithms Using C# Michael McMillan, 2007-03-26 Michael McMillan discusses the implementation of data structures and algorithms from the .NET framework. The comprehensive text includes basic data structures and algorithms plus advanced algorithms such as probabilistic algorithms and dynamics programming.

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murach s python for data analysis: Ansible Michael Heap, 2016-09-27 This book is your concise guide to Ansible, the simple way to automate apps and IT infrastructure. In less than 250 pages, this book takes you from knowing nothing about configuration management to understanding how to use Ansible in a professional setting. You will learn how to create an Ansible playbook to automatically set up an environment, ready to install an open source project. You'll extract common tasks into roles that you can reuse across all your projects, and build your infrastructure on top of existing open source roles and modules that are available for you to use. You will learn to build your own modules to perform actions specific to your business. By the end you will create an entire cluster of virtualized machines, all of which have your applications and all their dependencies installed automatically. Finally, you'll test your Ansible playbooks. Ansible can do as much or as little as you want it to. Ansible: From Beginner to Pro will teach you the key skills you need to be an Ansible professional. You'll be writing roles and modules and creating entire environments without human intervention in no time at all – add it to your library today. What You Will Learn Learn why Ansible is so popular and how to download and install it Create a playbook that automatically downloads and installs a popular open source project Use open source roles to complete common tasks, and write your own specific to your business Extend Ansible by writing your own modules Test your infrastructure using Test Kitchen and ServerSpec Who This Book Is For Developers that currently create development and production environments by hand. If you find yourself running apt-get install regularly, this book is for you. Ansible adds reproducibility and saves you time all at once. Ansible: From Beginner to Pro is great for any developer wanting to enhance their skillset and learn new tools.

murach s python for data analysis: Murach's Java Servlets and JSP Andrea Steelman, Joel Murach, 2003 This book methodically teaches all of the skills necessary for developing a commercial website using servlets and JavaServer Pages. These skills include working with HTML, HTTP, servlets, JSP, sessions, cookies, JavaBeans, SQL, JDBC, connection pooling, JavaMail, SSL, security, and XML. Unlike many of the competing books, this book provides detailed coding examples for working with Tomcat, one of the most popular servlet and JSP servers, and MySQL, one of the web's most popular database servers. A great book for any Java programmer. Includes CD-ROM.

murach s python for data analysis: Pandas 1.x Cookbook Matt Harrison, Theodore Petrou, 2020-02-27 Use the power of pandas to solve most complex scientific computing problems with ease. Revised for pandas 1.x. Key Features This is the first book on pandas 1.x Practical, easy to implement recipes for quick solutions to common problems in data using pandas Master the fundamentals of pandas to quickly begin exploring any dataset Book DescriptionThe pandas library is massive, and it's common for frequent users to be unaware of many of its more impressive features. The official pandas documentation, while thorough, does not contain many useful examples of how to piece together multiple commands as one would do during an actual analysis. This book guides you, as if you were looking over the shoulder of an expert, through situations that you are highly likely to encounter. This new updated and revised edition provides you with unique, idiomatic, and fun recipes for both fundamental and advanced data manipulation tasks with pandas. Some recipes focus on achieving a deeper understanding of basic principles, or comparing and contrasting two similar operations. Other recipes will dive deep into a particular dataset, uncovering new and unexpected insights along the way. Many advanced recipes combine several different features across the pandas library to generate results. What you will learn Master data exploration in pandas through dozens of practice problems Group, aggregate, transform, reshape, and filter data Merge data from different sources through pandas SQL-like operations Create visualizations via pandas hooks to matplotlib and seaborn Use pandas, time series functionality to perform powerful analyses Import, clean, and prepare real-world datasets for machine learning Create workflows for processing big data that doesn't fit in memory Who this book is for This book is for Python developers, data scientists, engineers, and analysts. Pandas is the ideal tool for manipulating structured data with Python and this book provides ample instruction and examples. Not only does it cover the basics required to be proficient, but it goes into the details of idiomatic pandas.

murach s python for data analysis: SQL in 10 Minutes a Day, Sams Teach Yourself Ben Forta, 2019-10-29 Just the parts of SQL you need to know from simple data retrieval to the use of SQL joins, subqueries, stored procedures, cursors, triggers, and table constraints Designed for anyone interacting with databases, this SQL book methodically, systematically, and simply teaches you in lessons that each take 10 minutes or less to complete. Lessons include SQL statements, including complex SQL statements using multiple clauses and operators Data management: retrieve, sort, and format database contents, including inserting, updating, and deleting Data analytics: Pinpoint the data you need using a variety of filtering techniques and aggregate functions to summarize data Tables: create, alter, and join database tables Views Stored procedures Expert trainer and popular author Ben Forta created this book for most of us who just need to learn SQL and do not need to understand database design and normalization to relational database theory and administrative concerns. Each lesson includes Full-color code examples to help you understand how SQL statements are structured Tips that point out shortcuts and solutions Cautions to help you avoid common pitfalls Notes that explain additional concepts, and provide additional information

murach s python for data analysis: *Practical SQL, 2nd Edition* Anthony DeBarros, 2022-01-25 Analyze data like a pro, even if you're a beginner. Practical SQL is an approachable and fast-paced guide to SQL (Structured Query Language), the standard programming language for defining, organizing, and exploring data in relational databases. Anthony DeBarros, a journalist and data analyst, focuses on using SQL to find the story within your data. The examples and code use the open-source database PostgreSQL and its companion pgAdmin interface, and the concepts you learn will apply to most database management systems, including MySQL, Oracle, SQLite, and others.* You'll first cover the fundamentals of databases and the SQL language, then build skills by analyzing data from real-world datasets such as US Census demographics, New York City taxi rides, and earthquakes from US Geological Survey. Each chapter includes exercises and examples that teach even those who have never programmed before all the tools necessary to build powerful databases and access information quickly and efficiently. You'll learn how to: Create databases and related tables using your own data Aggregate, sort, and filter data to find patterns Use functions for basic math and advanced statistical operations Identify errors in data and clean them up Analyze spatial data with a geographic information system (PostGIS) Create advanced queries and automate tasks This updated second edition has been thoroughly revised to reflect the latest in SQL features, including additional advanced query techniques for wrangling data. This edition also has two new chapters: an expanded set of instructions on for setting up your system plus a chapter on using PostgreSQL with the popular JSON data interchange format. Learning SQL doesn't have to be dry and complicated. Practical SQL delivers clear examples with an easy-to-follow approach to teach you the tools you need to build and manage your own databases. * Microsoft SQL Server employs a variant of the language called T-SQL, which is not covered by Practical SQL.

murach s python for data analysis: Murach's Mainframe COBOL Mike Murach, Anne Prince, Raul Menendez, 2004 This is the latest edition of our classic COBOL book that has set the standard for structured design and coding since the mid-1970s. So if you want to learn how to write COBOL programs the way they're written in the best enterprise COBOL shops, this is the book for you. And when you're done learning from this book, it becomes the best reference you'll ever find for use on the job. Throughout the book, you will learn how to use COBOL on IBM mainframes because that's where 90% or more of all COBOL is running. But to work on a mainframe, you need to know more than just the COBOL language. That's why this book also shows you: how to use the ISPF editor for entering programs; how to use TSO/E and JCL to compile and test programs; how to use the AMS utility to work with VSAM files; how to use CICS for developing interactive COBOL programs; how to use DB2 for developing COBOL programs that handle database data; how to maintain legacy programs. If you want to learn COBOL for other platforms, this book will get you off to a good start because COBOL is a standard language. In fact, all of the COBOL that's presented in this book will also run on any other platform that has a COBOL compiler. Remember, though, that billions of lines of mainframe COBOL are currently in use, and those programs will keep programmers busy for

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